

MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC WORKS COUNCIL COMMITTEE
Monday, August 1, 2016
City Hall Training Room – West Des Moines

In Attendance:

Council Member – Rick Messerschmidt	Public Works Director – Bret Hodne
Council Member – Russ Trimble	Public Works Deputy Director – Joe Cory
City Manager – Tom Hadden	Traffic Engineer – Jim Dickinson
Finance Director – Tim Stiles	Transportation Engineer – Eric Petersen
Assistant City Attorney – Greta Truman	Communication Specialist – Lucinda Stephenson
City Engineer – Duane Wittstock	

Meeting called to order at 11:34 am.

1. Letters of Support – Coalition Against Bigger Trucks

Issue Summary:

It was reported that staff met with Melissa Wolf, State Director of The Coalition Against Bigger Trucks to receive an update on recent legislation regarding increases in the weight and length of tractor-trailer trucks. The Coalition is a national non-profit that advocates at the federal level against allowing heavier and longer trucks on interstates and local roads across the country. The Coalition is requesting letters of support to continue the opposition of heavier and longer trucks on roadways. In November 2015, legislation that would have mandated longer double tractor-trailers and allowed heavier single tractor-trailers in Iowa was defeated, but the legislation may be reintroduced in Congress. Staff presented a draft of a letter provided by the Coalition that would be sent to Senator Joni Ernst and Senator Chuck Grassley (Item 1). Both senators had previously opposed the initial legislation in November 2015, and the letter is seeking their continued opposition in any weight and length increase of tractor-trailer trucks. Discussion occurred on the impact to local roadways if federal legislation for an increase in truck weight and length passed. Staff recommends continuing the opposition to the heavier and longer trucks.

Direction: The PWCC concurs with staff recommendation. The letter will be brought up at a future Council meeting.

2. 2016-17 Snow Removal RFP

Issue Summary:

Public Works Director Bret Hodne reported on the RFP process and contract that will be administered for a private contractor to conduct snow removal on various areas in the City, including Valley Junction parking lots, City building entrances, sidewalks, and school crossing guard areas. Staff from Parks and Recreation were utilized during last year's snow removal season to assist with snow removal on City streets and will continue to be an integral part of the program again this year. Because of the significant growth of the City's infrastructure and high level of expectations and priority for clearing City streets after a snow event, it has been decided to contract out the snow removal services for these various areas again this year. The contract was restructured to be on a per-event basis based on snowfall amounts. Based on normal winter weather conditions, the estimated cost this year for the contract is anticipated to be

approximately \$75,000. With the Parks Operations moving to Public Works effective September 1, 2016, staff has been analyzing what services would be best handled by contracting out, so that City staff can continue to meet service level expectations.

Direction: Information Only.

3. Pedestrian Crossing – North Side of 67th and Ashworth

Issue Summary:

It was reported that Councilman Kevin Trevillyan inquired about the pedestrian ramp location on the north side of Ashworth Road near 67th Street and Ashworth. The pedestrian ramp does not line up to the sidewalks on the south side of Ashworth Road and it is not ADA compliant (Item 3). It was noted that there is a pedestrian crossing located at 65th and Ashworth Road and 72nd Street and Ashworth Road. Staff's recommendation is to remove the pedestrian crossing near 67th and Ashworth Road.

Direction: The PWCC concurs with staff recommendation.

4. Review of Public Works Items for Council Meeting (August 8, 2016)

A. Approval of Final Plat and Schedule of Assessments – 2014 Sidewalk Program Phase I

B. Amendment to City Code:

- i. Special Speed Zones – 81st Street-Ashworth Road to Bridgewood Blvd – Approval of Second, Third Readings, and Final Adoption
- ii. Special Stops Required – South 45th Street and Westwood Drive, West Access Road City Hall and Frontage Road, East Access Road City Hall and Frontage Road, 95th Street and Red Sunset Drive/Red Sunset Court, 95th Street and Cedarwood Drive/Cedarwood Court – Approval of Second, Third Readings, and Final Adoption
- iii. Official Traffic Controls – 50th Street and Stonebridge Road – Approval of First Reading

C. Order Construction – Sugar Creek Conveyance Improvements, Phase I

D. Accept Work:

- i. Alluvion Fiber Interconnect – Yellow Route
- ii. South 88th Street Grading

E. Approval of Professional Services Agreement – Grand Avenue West Sewer Segments 3 and 4

5. Staff Updates

A. Traffic Engineer Jim Dickinson reported that the Iowa DOT is currently taking applications for Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP) funds. The City has used these funds in the past to purchase battery backup units, flashing yellow arrows, and vehicle radar detection units. Staff has sent information to the grant review committee to use these funds to purchase radar detection units for four intersections. The amount being requested is \$93,000 at 100% funding with installation being handled by City staff. The intersections under consideration have heavy bike traffic and would benefit from the detection units. It was also reported that in September, applications are due for the Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP) and staff has also submitted information to the grant review committee for these

funds. The ICAAP funds would be used to purchase equipment for traffic signal improvements.

Direction: Information Only.

- B. Mr. Hodne reported that with the merge of the Parks Operations with the Public Works Department, Public Works will be re-named to Public Services effective September 1, 2016.

Direction: Information Only.

- C. It was reported that staff is creating a map for the City's website that will indicate construction project locations. In addition, e-notifications for construction updates will soon be available.

Direction: Information Only.

6. Other Matters – None.

The meeting adjourned at 12:29 PM. The next Public Works Council Committee meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2016.

Copies of handouts are available at Public Works upon request. A recording was made. Respectfully submitted by Kimberly Pinegar, Secretary.



**PUBLIC WORKS COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA**

Monday, August 1, 2016 – 11:30 AM

Location: West Des Moines City Hall – Training Room
4200 Mills Civic Parkway

1. Letters of Support – Coalition Against Bigger Trucks (ERP)
2. 2016-17 Snow Removal RFP (RBH)
3. Pedestrian Crossing – North Side of 67th and Ashworth (RBH)
4. Review of Public Works Items for Council Meeting (August 8, 2016)
5. Staff Updates
6. Other Matters

This agenda is created for planning purposes and is subject to change.

Any discussion, feedback or recommendation by Sub-committee member(s) should not be construed or understood to be an action or decision by or for the West Des Moines City Council.

July 14, 2016

The Honorable Joni Ernst
111 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Ernst,

I am writing to ask you to continue to oppose any weight or length increases for tractor-trailer trucks, specifically the proposal to increase truck weights to 91,000 pounds and the longer double, Twin 33, configuration.

A Comprehensive Truck Size and Weight Study completed by the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) in June of 2015 recommended that Congress make no changes to truck size and weight laws and regulations. Their study estimates that longer double-trailer trucks, Twin 33s, could add \$1.2 billion to \$1.8 billion in pavement costs, and 91,000-pound trucks would cost \$1.1 billion in additional bridge costs per year for posting, reinforcement or replacement.

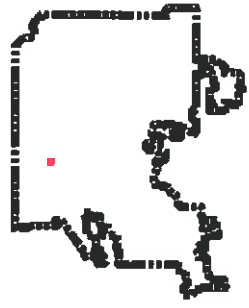
Further, this study did not look at the impact of heavier or longer trucks on local roads or bridges. Since almost no tractor-trailer stops or starts its trip on Interstate highways, they must travel on roads and bridges maintained by states and local municipalities. Local roads account for more than 95 percent of the 4 million public roadways in the U.S. and large trucks travel 50 billion miles a year on local roads. That is one-third of all large-truck vehicle miles traveled. These local roads and bridges are the most vulnerable to heavier and longer trucks and will see an even greater impact. The additional damage caused by bigger trucks would increase the financial burden to municipalities.

Thank you for supporting the bi-partisan motion in November 2015 to strip the proposal in the omnibus appropriations bill to mandate double 33 tractor-trailer trucks.

There is currently a renewed push for Twin 33's (HR 4371) and I ask for your continued opposition to any increases in truck size and weight.

Sincerely,

Name/title
City of West Des Moines



- Legend**
- Parcels
 - Parks
 - Greenways

67th and Ashworth - Pedestrian Ramp



1: 458

Disclaimer: The City of West Des Moines makes no warranties regarding the accuracy or completeness of the data provided herein.
THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION



ITEM 3



Pinegar, Kimberly

From: West Des Moines, IA <webmaster@wdm.iowa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2016 2:28 PM
To: Pinegar, Kimberly
Subject: West Des Moines, IA: Public Works Council Committee Meeting

Public Works Council Committee Meeting

- **Date:** 08/01/2016 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
- **Location:** West Des Moines City Hall - Training Room
[4200 Mills Civic Parkway](#)
[West Des Moines, Iowa 50265](#)
- **Agenda:** [8.1.16 PWCC Agenda](#)

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